

Street and Instructor at Campbell College located on Lunch Street. Ms. Robinson worked many years for the United States Veterans Administration Regional Office. She was first employed as a clerk and she retired as a senior executive several years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. L'Dina Robinson for her dedication to serving.

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. STAFFORD  
WICKER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Stafford J.N. Wicker is celebrating forty (40) years in ministry and providing stellar leadership to his church; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Stafford J.N. Wicker under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained Antioch African Methodist Episcopal Church as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Wicker is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, and most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our community and the nation his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Reverend Dr. Stafford J.N. Wicker as he celebrates forty years in pastoral leadership; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim June 5, 2016 as: Reverend Dr. Stafford J.N. Wicker Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 5th day of June, 2016.

HONORING CHARLEEN R. SZABO

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2016*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with the Honorable LOIS FRANKEL, the Honorable PATRICK MURPHY, and the Honorable ALCEE HASTINGS, to recognize Charleen R. Szabo. Ms. Szabo will retire as the Director of the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center on June 30, 2016. We commend Ms. Szabo's career and offer our sincerest gratitude for her dedication of nearly 42 years of service to our veterans.

Ms. Szabo received her undergraduate degree from Utica College of Syracuse University and was later awarded her Master's degree from State University College of New York at Brockport. Charleen began her career at the Batavia, New York VA Medical Center before transferring to the Miami, Florida VA Medical Center. Throughout her career, she has devoted herself to the Richmond, Virginia

VA Medical Centers in Richmond, Virginia; Newington, Connecticut; Batavia, New York; Lebanon, Pennsylvania; and Miami, Florida.

As director of the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center, she has made it a priority to direct the Center with respect and care for the needs of all local veterans. Ms. Szabo has worked endlessly to improve the lives of our veterans. She embodies the VA's mission to "Honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being."

The legacy Charleen Szabo leaves behind is a true testament to her commitment to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and to the men and women who served and protected our Nation. Her legacy will have a long-lasting impact on the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center for years to come. We offer Ms. Szabo our warmest congratulations and wish her a rewarding and rich retirement.

HONORING MRS. ORA B. PHIPPS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Ora B. Phipps.

Ora B. Peoples was born on October 21, 1928 to the late Rev. Claiborne and Elizabeth Peoples in Coahoma, MS. She was educated in her early years by the Coahoma County School system in a one room, one teacher, all black school. She attended Aggie High School and a college by Coahoma College. She grew up in a farming family. Often their school schedule was set around the farmers. Many students would drop out of school because work was more important than education. This stuck with her and later became very instrumental in shaping her and her family's life. She has 10 children (seven girls and 3 boys) which are the joy of her life.

In 1951 she moved to Marks, MS where she later married Armstead Phipps. They were both concerned about education. Their children were some of the first to integrate Marks Jr. High School better known then as the white school or bulldog. Their children suffered the abuse and ridicule that came with the movement but as parents they were committed to see this process through.

Armstead Phipps, husband, participated in the James Meredith March against Fear in 1966 in which he collapsed and died in the process of fighting for Civil Rights. He suffered a heart condition in which he was warned not to participate but he thought the cause was too important not to. He felt that his children would benefit from the integration of the school system. He said he would like to shake hands with Dr. Martin Luther King and Dick Gregory then everything would be alright. He asked his wife, Ora Phipps, to promise him that if anything happened that she would send their children to the white school. She kept that promise. At the time of his death a voter registration card was found in his wallet, which was one of his proudest achievements. His funeral was eulogized by the late Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Valley Queen Church in Marks, MS. That voter registration card was shown to the congregation at the funeral by Dr. King.

Ora B. Phipps was very instrumental in starting the first head start program in Marks, MS in the home of Mr. Brady on Martin Luther King Drive. They had no school buses to get the children to school. She and many other people solicited drivers, teachers, social workers, cooks, and everything necessary to start the program all by volunteers. The program then advanced to local churches in surrounding areas, finally the proposal to start and fund the program was submitted to the school board in Hotel Heidelberg at Jackson, MS. She was a visionary and a self-starter.

Her hobbies consist of gardening where she spends countless hours in the yard. This is a community garden in her yard where she gives to anyone that asks. She is known by everyone in the community for her giving nature and love for the people. She still is an active member of the Church of Christ in Lambert, MS.

Ora Phipps was honored in Birmingham, Alabama with the Southern Rural Black Women Initiative for Economic and Social Justice Award on March 6, 2010 for her brave efforts in fighting for social and economic justice.

Mr. Speaker, please help us to congratulate Mrs. Ora B. Phipps for her part in history.

TRIBUTE TO MOTHER MINNIE  
JONES

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, for thirty-six years, Mother Minnie Jones served as President of the Beulah Baptist Church Mother Board Number 2, in Decatur, Georgia. We are all thankful this virtuous woman of God accepting her call to serve in the leadership role of the Mother Board, assisting and serving the members of the congregation; and

Whereas, Mother Jones began her membership at Beulah in 1952 and since joining the church, she has provided service to citizens from all walks of life. In 1978, Mother Jones initiated the formation of the Junior Mother Board at Beulah. She served in various other ministries at the church such as the Golden Eagles, the Missionary Board, and the Usher Board. She is a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother; and

Whereas, this energetic, phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens of our District a friend to help those in need, a fearless leader and a servant to all. She is a powerful prayer warrior and intercessor for the congregation; and

Whereas, Mother Jones is a cornerstone in our community who has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mother Jones on her outstanding years of leadership and service to the Beulah Baptist Church Mother Board Number 2; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim June 11, 2016 as: Mother Minnie Jones Day in the 4th Congressional District.